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REMARKS

Claims 1-31 were pending in the application. In response to the office action, applicants have amended the specification, canceled claims 7-9, 16-18, and 27-31, and amended claims 1-6, 10, 12-14, 19, and 21-23. Claims 1-6, 10-15, and 19-26 are now pending for reconsideration.

Applicants have amended the specification in accordance with the amended claims. Support for the amendment may be found at least in Figs. 15 and 25 of the originally filed drawings. No new matter has been added.

The claims were rejected over numerous references. Applicants have amended the claims to define over the cited art of record. Specifically, none of the cited references teach or suggest a cold plate having a channel structure defined by interleaved semi-circular walls providing at least two flow paths having different flow directions. Accordingly, the rejections are believed to be overcome.

In order to expedite the prosecution, applicants provide the following further observations.

Applicants object to the approach taken by the Examiner. In many instances the rejections of the claims provided little or no supporting analysis. It is difficult if not impossible to determine the Examiner's position when the rejection is not fully articulated. If any rejections are maintained or if any new rejections are made, applicants respectfully request the Examiner's cooperation in providing statements of the rejection that comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.104(c)(2).

For example, several § 103 rejections relied on U.S. Patent No. 1,539,887 (Vandergrift). The office action asserts, without citation to any supporting portion of Vandergrift, that Vandergrift discloses defining a plurality of non-linear flow paths for

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the purpose of minimizing pressure drop. Applicants are unable to identify any such teaching in Vandergrift. Applicants note that Vandergrift discloses using an annular platen because that was the shape conventionally used in presses for curing tire beads (see col. 2, first full paragraph at numbered lines 62-68).

Applicants further note that no evidence of the date of the Fraas reference has been provided and that the single page of the reference relied upon does not provide enough context to properly analyze the legality of any proposed modification.

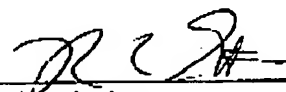
In view of the foregoing, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested. Early notification of the same is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions regarding the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

September 26, 2005

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO to 571-273-8300: Commissioner for Patents, PO BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 26, 2005

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